

■ CD review

'Goodies' smooth vocals don't make up for unappealing lyrics

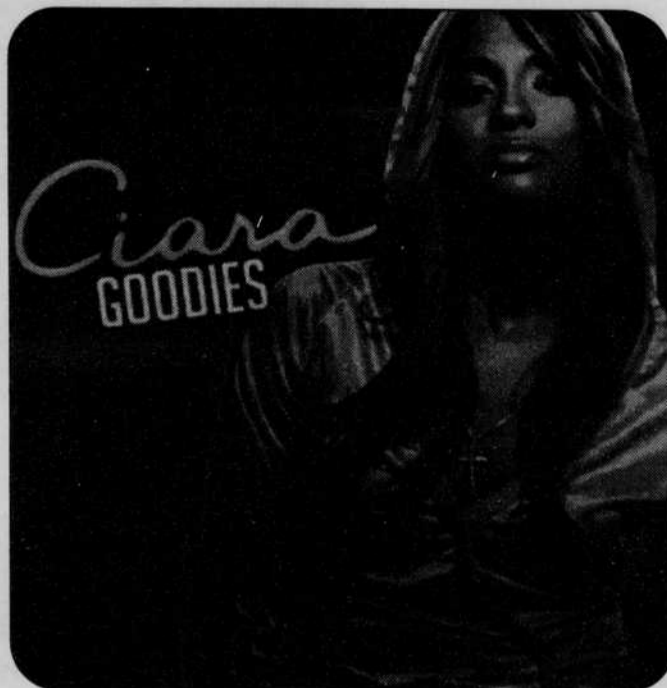
Pop star Ciara gets by with a little help from friends on her new album

BY DAHVI FISCHER
PULSE REPORTER

Vocally a cross between Aaliyah and Beyonce, R&B singer/songwriter Ciara proves on her debut album, "Goodies," that she has the right voice to compete with today's smooth and sensual mainstream R&B vocalists.

While her voice is more than pleasant, the 18-year-old Atlanta native could do more for herself lyrically. Having co-written 11 out of 13 of the tracks on her album, less than half really generate appeal, while zero out of 13 are thought-provoking or even semi-sophisticated sounding. For example, in her track "Pick Up the Phone" the lyrics are as deep as, "I know you see me on your caller ID, so pick up the P-H-O-N-E." With no profanity used throughout the album's entirety and with lyrics such as "Nobody's home. We can kick it all night. I know that you don't have a curfew," this album is obviously aimed at a younger audience.

While the album does indeed provide several favorable tracks (especially "And I" and "The Title"), don't expect any of the tracks to surpass the radio-favorite, Petey Pablo collaboration "Goodies." Not only is it the best song on the album, but it is also only one of two



COURTESY

R&B vocalist Ciara's new album, "Goodies," is a worthy yet uninspiring effort.

dance-worthy tracks (the other being "1, 2 Step" with Missy Elliott).

While none of the songs are likely to win Ciara a Grammy, all of the artist's tracks (except the horrible "Lookin At You") are at least tolerable. She manages to pick up several collaborations with some big-name artists. Most importantly, she reveals that her most valuable "goodie" is her amazing voice.

Relaxing, yet also dance-worthy, Colorado-based DJ/Producer DJ Harry produces 10 new tracks on

his latest album, "Collision." Best categorized in the House genre, each of DJ Harry's 10 songs are unique, each providing a different vibe and musical state of mind.

Although each of the songs on the album is relaxing, the first half of the album is more chill sounding, while the second half is a bit more funky and abstract.

Two songs to especially listen for are "All My Life" (which is one of two songs with vocals) and

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Saturday Market

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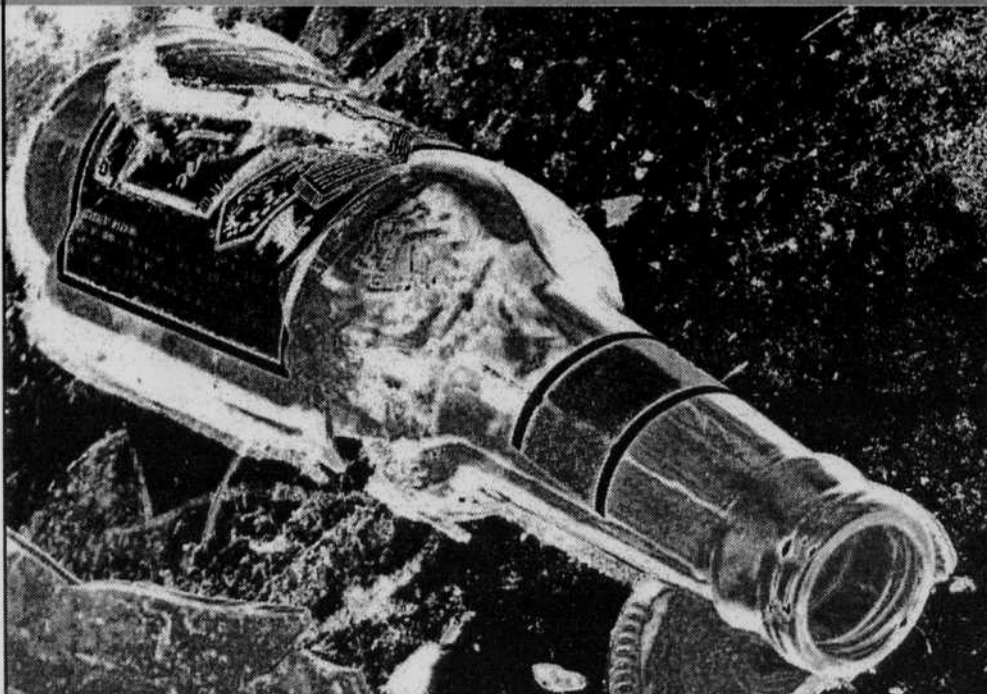
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1. Call the police yourself if uninvited guests disrupt your party or if guests won't pay attention to your requests to leave and obey the law. Call before things get too out of control. Police will view your trying to keep things under control as a preventative measure.
2. Respond positively if a police officer comes to your house. The officer is most likely responding to a complaint. Make sure the person interacting with the police officer at the front door is sober and able to be responsive to their requests. Do as much as possible to comply with what the police are asking you to do. Enlist the help of your friends and housemates.
3. Interfering with a police officer makes a bad situation worse. Do not physically resist the officer under any circumstance. Use common sense and cooperate. If you have committed a crime and a police officer asks you to identify yourself, you need to do so. Always tell a police officer your name if asked. Giving a false name is a separate offense and will likely escalate what might have been a citation into a trip to jail.
4. Understand that you can be arrested. A police officer may take someone into custody for any violation of law that carries a potential jail penalty. This includes most state criminal laws and many city ordinances. For some violations, an officer may detain you while verifying your identity and issuing a citation.
5. When a police officer asks you to clear an area, leave right away. If you stay around after the warning to watch what's happening, you may be cited for interfering with a police officer. If police warn that they are going to use tear gas, you need to get as far away as fast as you can.

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